

TREASURE

OUR

new york

COASTS

and

ESTUARIES

miles of coastline  
**2,625**

coastal population in 2000  
**16,088,089**

fy03 czma funding  
**\$2,835,000**

fy03 national estuarine research  
reserve operations, education,  
monitoring and stewardship  
**\$492,840**

NEW YORK'S DIVERSE COASTAL ZONE INCLUDES NOT ONLY ALL OF LONG ISLAND, BUT ALSO THE ENTIRE WATERSHED OF THE LOWER HUDSON RIVER AND MOST OF THE AREA DRAINING INTO THE GREAT LAKES AND ST. LAWRENCE RIVER. IN ADDITION TO SUPPORTING SUBSTANTIAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, THESE REGIONS PROVIDE FOR A \$240 MILLION COMMERCIAL FISHING INDUSTRY; A PORT INDUSTRY THAT GENERATES NEARLY \$18 BILLION IN WAGES, SERVICES, AND SALES; AND MARINA OPERATORS AND RECREATIONAL FISHERMEN ON THE GREAT LAKES, THE HUDSON RIVER, AND LONG ISLAND THAT CONTRIBUTE \$2 BILLION TO THE STATE'S ECONOMY. THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT (CZMA) PROVIDES THE FRAMEWORK NECESSARY TO SUSTAIN THE ECONOMIC AND ECOLOGICAL VALUE OF NEW YORK'S COASTAL AREAS. THIS LAW, WHICH IS ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION (NOAA), RECOGNIZES A NATIONAL INTEREST IN OUR COASTAL AND OCEAN AREAS. IT ALLOWS STATES AND TERRITORIES, NOT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, TO DETERMINE HOW BEST TO BALANCE CONSERVATION OF THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT WITH HUMAN USES.

## THE CZMA IN NEW YORK

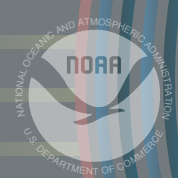
The CZMA establishes two programs to balance the use and protection of America's coasts. The Coastal Management Program gives states a flexible framework to address a broad range of community development, economic, and natural resource issues at the state and local level. The National Estuarine Research Reserve System protects key coastal areas for long-term scientific study, education, and resource stewardship.

### *New York Coastal Management Program*

*Approved: 1976*

*Lead Agency: Division of Coastal Resources, Department of State*

The New York Coastal Management Program coordinates state activities and programs for the coastal management program in five regions: Great Lakes, St. Lawrence River, Hudson River estuary, New York City, and Long Island. Issues the New York Coastal Management Program address include coastal hazards, natural resource protection and restoration, special area management planning, coastal nonpoint source pollution, and review of federal and state



project for consistency with state coastal policies. The program also encourages local governments to establish their own coastal programs.

The New York Coastal Management Program's accomplishments include:

- *distributing millions of dollars annually to local governments to address an array of environmental issues through the state's Environmental Protection Fund and Clean Water/Clean Air Bond Act. Funding is made available to restore brownfields, ensure safe drinking water, revitalize local waterfronts, restore natural habitats, clean up air and water resources, and support solid waste management efforts.*
- *publishing Salt Marsh Restoration and Monitoring Guidelines, a comprehensive, accessible, and understandable source for current technical information on salt marsh restoration and ecology that will increase the quality of restoration project planning. It sets overall goals for the state and standardizes definitions, restoration methods and characterizations for types of disturbances.*
- *using Coastal Zone Management funds and state dollars to develop and adopt a state-based Comprehensive Management Plan for the Long Island South Shore Estuary Reserve. Priorities of the Coastal Management Program include improving and maintaining water quality; protecting and restoring living resources; expanding public use and enjoyment of the Estuary; and supporting water-dependent businesses and enhancing maritime centers.*
- *expanding public access throughout the coastal area by developing new parks, boat launch sites, blueway trails, waterfront esplanades, and unique pedestrian accessways across major highways.*
- *building intermunicipal consensus and action plans to reduce nonpoint source pollution in major coastal watersheds on Long Island and elsewhere.*
- *reclaiming hundreds of acres of urban brownfields in the City of Glen Cove and in other coastal communities for significant new economic uses through unique federal, state, local, and not-for-profit partnerships.*

## ***New York's National Estuarine Research Reserve Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve***

***Designation: 1982***

***Lead Agency: Department of Environmental Conservation***

The Hudson River Reserve is one of a national network of coastal protected areas that conduct science, education, and stewardship. The reserve system is a partnership between NOAA and the states.

The Hudson River Reserve includes nearly 5,000 acres of tidal wetlands and upland at four component sites located along 100 miles of the Hudson River between Albany and New York City. The reserve is headquartered at the Bard College Field Station. All of the reserve components serve as field laboratories for research and education programs. Educational programs draw on this research, particularly coastal decisionmaker workshops, teacher training opportunities, and field studies.

## **PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION**

The New York Coastal Management Program within the New York State Department of State and the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve within the New York Department of Environmental Conservation are working together with federal agencies on the Hudson River Habitat Restoration Study. The Study proposes the restoration of three sites on the Hudson River that will result in removal of fill placed within historic marshes to restore the proper elevation, enabling the reestablishment of valuable vegetative communities. Restoration of the inter tidal elevation will also reestablish or improve tidal connections between the Hudson River and wetlands, increase tidal circulation and fish utilization of the marsh, and enable fish to access the marsh surface for a more significant portion of the tidal range.